



# Keeping the SPIRIT ALIVE

SUMMER 2022

## FOUNDATION NEWS

# LIVING THE MISSION

There is an ongoing conversation about **“living the mission”** at St. Patrick’s Home. It’s discussed during orientation, included in the commissioning service for new employees and volunteers; and posted on the Mission Board, where each month, we explore one of the Home’s core values: respect, integrity, collaboration, empathy, excellence and teamwork.

The mission statement isn’t buried in the pages of a strategic plan, it is seen in the way people engage with each other and their work, with the shared goal to **provide quality, person-centred care in a welcoming Home environment; where everyone feels supported and cared for.**

Our role at the Foundation is to support this mission by funding programs, projects and other resources that are ESSENTIAL to our Home and the residents, but are NOT covered by government allocations, or residents’ fees.

Which means the financial support we receive from you and other donors matters and is directly connected to the health, well-being and lived experience of our residents. Without your collective support, programs like spiritual and pastoral care, community and social engagement, and music therapy, simply wouldn’t exist, or if they did, they’d be very limited.

Thank you.

In this issue of **Keeping the Spirit Alive**, we share three stories about three truly unique individuals who reside at St. Patrick’s Home. In each story, we hope to relay a principle from person-centred care — the model of care at the core of St. Pat’s strategic vision — show you what it looks like in practice and how your donations help.



# PERSON-CENTRED CARE...

...supports engagement in meaningful activities that reflect each resident's needs, interests and abilities.



**JUNE** was born in Ottawa, in 1935, the youngest of four children. From a young age, June loved going to Church. She remembers how excited she felt when the McGuire Family became members of St. Patrick's Basilica. She was eight years old, and couldn't wait to celebrate her First Holy Communion in the historic, beautiful church.

To this day, June keeps a photograph from her First Communion on her nightstand. Her hair had been carefully curled into ringlets by her mother, and she was proudly dressed in a new white dress, veil and gloves.

June maintained her membership at St. Pat's Basilica for 40 years. Now in her seventh year of residency at St. Pat's, she remains devout in her faith. She embraces the opportunity to attend daily mass, visit the chapel at her leisure, participate in a rosary circle, and schedule a pastoral visit. This feeds her soul and gives each day meaning and purpose.

**HOW YOU HELP:** The depth and richness of spiritual care programming at St. Pat's is second-to-none. It's part of the history and values of our Home, and continues on, to support the physical, spiritual, mental health, and quality of life of residents. Community donations protect these highly-regarded programs that are not covered by government allocations or residents' fees.

...is flexible and considers the unique needs and preferences of each resident.



...helps residents maintain connections to the community, their identity, and personal interests.

**LES** is part of a small group of residents, under the age of 55, who live at St. Patrick's Home. For many years, Les worked as a foreman, supervising cleaning crews. So when he moved to St. Pat's, he was keen to draw upon his experience and be an active participant in Home life.



David Wainwright, Manager of Resident & Family Services, introduced Les to Residents' Council, a volunteer committee that consults with, and represents the interests of residents. The Council sets its own agenda, meets regularly with the leadership team at St. Pat's, and engages in decisions or projects that may impact the lives of residents.

Today, Les serves as Council President, volunteers with the Ontario Association of Residents' Councils, and in June 2022, he was a panellist at the *Walk With Me Conference*. He loves to catch the occasional SENS game at Canadian Tire Centre or the REDBLACKS at TD Place; and just a few weeks ago, he was a special guest at our annual fundraising event, *St. Pat's Kitchen Party*.

**HOW YOU HELP:** An investment in the education and professional development of employees across departments will equip staff with the knowledge, tools, and practical experience to deliver person-centred care, and optimize the quality of life of each resident. Each year, a portion of the funds we raise, is directed towards priority training programs.

When **GAIL** moved to St. Pat's it didn't take long for people to notice she had a love for animals. The first clue to discovering this interest came from the trinkets that fill her room. The second clue came from learning that Gail had worked at a pet store.

This gave the Recreation Team idea — it was rather unconventional, but they were sure it would brighten Gail's days.

So, with the appropriate approvals in place, they arranged to give her a bird, a cage and all of the supplies she'd need to care for the bird. Since then, this little yellow bird has been a constant companion, a friend that keeps Gail busy every day — providing food and water, sweeping the floor, holding the bird in her hands and stroking its small beak.

**HOW YOU HELP:** The staff at St. Pat's strive to know each resident as an individual, and to identify engagement options that match their interests (music, news, history, crosswords, gardening, etc.), preferences (one-to-one, small group, large group), and needs (adapting activities for different abilities). It's a tall order! Your donations provide the Recreation Team with the resources they need to deliver on this challenge.



EST. 2019

# ST. PAT'S KITCHEN PARTY

PRESENTED BY:



## GOOD COMPANY. LIVE MUSIC. LOADS OF FUN.

After two years of virtual meetings and events, it was exciting to see so many friends at St. Pat's Kitchen Party, and wonderful to welcome some new folks into our community of supporters.

The Kitchen Party, held at The Horticulture Building on Friday, June 3rd, featured live Celtic/East Coast music, Irish dance performances, beautiful food, a raffle and silent auction. Most importantly, it connected people that care about St. Pat's and want to raise funds for the priority needs of the Home.

We're grateful for the loyal, generous support we receive year-after-year from our sponsors, hosts and guests. Thank you! Mark your calendars now for our next party on **St. Patrick's Day, Friday, March 17, 2023!**

**Thank you for supporting St. Patrick's Home and keeping the residents in our care close to your heart.**



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